

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION
(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark
Office
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ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing: 13 April 2000 (13.04.00)	
International application No.: PCT/US98/20478	Applicant's or agent's file reference:
International filing date: 05 October 1998 (05.10.98)	Priority date:
Applicant: WILLIAMSON, Warren, N. et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

in the demand filed with the International preliminary Examining Authority on:

04 May 1999 (04.05.99)

in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election was

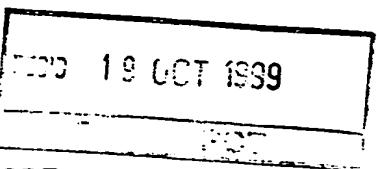
was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer: J. Zahra Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US98/20478	International filing date (day/month/year) 05 OCTOBER 1998	Priority date (day/month/year) NONE
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(6): A61B 5/103; and US Cl.: 600/562		
Applicant WILLIAMSON, WARREN N.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

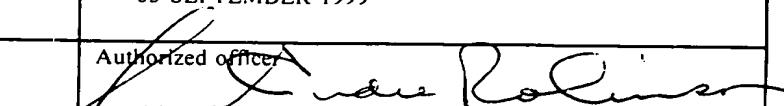
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority. (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 04 MAY 1999	Date of completion of this report 03 SEPTEMBER 1999
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231	Authorized officer MAX HINDENBURG 
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Telephone No. (703) 308-3130

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US98/20478

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (Substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain

 the international application as originally filed. the description, pages 1-67, as originally filed.

pages NONE, filed with the demand.

pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.

 the claims, Nos. 1-146, as originally filed.

Nos. NONE, as amended under Article 19.

Nos. NONE, filed with the demand.

Nos. NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____.

 the drawings, sheets/fig 1-45, as originally filed.

sheets/fig NONE, filed with the demand.

sheets/fig NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

 the description, pages NONE. the claims, Nos. NONE. the drawings, sheets/fig NONE.

3. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the ~~Supplemental Box~~ Additional observations below (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

NONE

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US98/20478

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. STATEMENT**

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-146</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims <u>1-146</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-146</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Claims 1-146 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(4) because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a means for supporting histological tissue biopsy samples, and method comprising a microtome sectioning tissue supporting means that is sectioning, resists histological stains, resists degradation from solvents, from chemicals, and has means for maintaining the support means non-distractedly.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----

NONE

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US98/20478

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) :A61B 5/103

US CL :600/562

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 422/102; 435/285, 310; 436/43, 46, 174, 176; 600/562

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

APS

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4,985,206 A (BOWMAN et al.) 15 January 1991.	1-146
A	US 5,312,758 A (AHLQVIST) 17 May 1994.	1-146
A	US 5,665,398 A (McCORMICK) 09 September 1997.	1-146
A	US 5,650,327 A (COPELAND et al.) 22 July 1997.	1-146

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

• Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"B" earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Z"	document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 DECEMBER 1998

Date of mailing of the international search report

16 JAN 1999

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